RENUMBERED CLAIMS 37 CFR 1.126 6/19/06

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-35 without prejudice.

Add claims 36-54 which follow:

~~36~~ 40. An isolated nucleic acid molecule which comprises a sequence encoding a protein which inhibits osteoclast differentiation from haematopoietic cell precursors, selected from the group consisting of osteoclast inhibitory lectin (OCIL) and OCIL-related protein, and which either

(i) hybridizes under conditions of moderate to high stringency to one or more nucleotide sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 21, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 37, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 45 SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 21, and SEQ ID NO: 37; or

(ii) has greater than 80% sequence identity with one or more of the sequences set out in (i).

~~37~~ 41. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim ~~36~~ 40, which encodes a type II membrane protein.

~~38~~ 42. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim ~~36~~ 40 which is expressed at least by osteoblasts.

~~39~~ 43. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim ~~36~~ 40, which is of human, mouse or rat origin.

~~40~~ 44. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim ~~36~~ 40, which is cDNA.

~~41~~. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim ~~40~~ 44 wherein said cDNA comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 7, SEQ ID NO: 8, SEQ ID NO: 9, SEQ ID NO: 10, SEQ ID NO: 12, SEQ ID

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NO: 15, SEQ ID NO: 19, SEQ ID NO: 20, SEQ ID NO: 33, SEQ ID NO: 36, SEQ ID NO: 44, SEQ ID NO: 45 and SEQ ID NO: 46.

42. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 36, which is gDNA.

43. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 42, wherein said gDNA comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11, SEQ ID NO: 21, and SEQ ID NO: 37, or which hybridizes to said nucleic acid molecule under stringent conditions.

44. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 36 which encodes an extracellular domain of an OCIL or of an OCIL-related protein.

45. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 36, which inihibits differentiation of haematopoietic stem cells to osteoclast pregenitor cells.

46. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 36 which comprises 110 base pair sequence as set out in SEQ ID NO: 2.

47. An isolated nucleic acid molecule directed against a mucleic acid molecule according to claim 36.

48. The isolated anti-sense nucleic acid molecule according to claim 47 directed against SEQ ID NO: 10.

49. The isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 47, which is SEQ ID NO: 24 or SEQ ID NO: 25.

50. An isolated polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule of claim 36.

51. An antibody directed against the polypeptide of claim 50.

52. A method of treatment of a condition characterized by abnormal bone resorption, comprising administering an effective amount of a modulator of expression or function of the polypeptide according to claim 50.

53. A method of modulating breast and/or lymph node development, comprising administering an effective amount of a modulator of expression or function of a polypeptide according to claim 50 to a subject in need of such treatment.

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54. An isolated oligonucleotide primer selected from the group consisting of sense primers having the nucleotide sequence set out in SEQ ID NO: 5, 6, 30, 35, 13, 14, 16, 18, 27, 47, 50, 52, 54, or 55, and antisense primers having the nucleotide sequence set out in SEQ ID NO: 3, 31, 32, 14, 28, 34, 38, 39, 51, 53, 22, 23, 24, 25, 43 or 56.

REMARKS

Entry of the amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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